



City of Framingham

Proclamation

September 5, 2023

WHEREAS, suicide remains the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the 2nd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 to 34; and
WHEREAS, in the United States over 45,979 people died by suicide in 2020 (Center for Disease Control and Prevention); and
WHEREAS, almost six times as many people died by suicide than in alcohol related motor vehicle accidents; and
WHEREAS, it is estimated that close to 70% of communities do not have enough mental health providers to serve residents; and
WHEREAS, suicide was the 15th leading cause of death in Massachusetts; and
WHEREAS, 618 people died by suicide in Massachusetts; and
WHEREAS, over 90% of the people who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition, although often that condition is not recognized or treated; and,
WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Massachusetts Chapter are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, through research, education, advocacy and resources for those who have lost someone to suicide or who struggle, and urge that we:

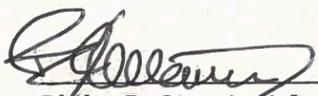
1. Recognize suicide as a preventable national and state public health problem and declare suicide prevention to be a priority.
2. Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for all populations or communities.
3. Address the disparity in access to mental healthcare for underrepresented groups, and advocate for ending these disparities.
4. Fund new suicide research to support culturally informed and evidence-based mental health care and services.
5. Promote awareness that there is no single cause for suicide, and that suicide most often occurs when stressors exceed the coping abilities of someone struggling with a mental health condition.
6. Develop and implement strategies to improve and increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services and programs.

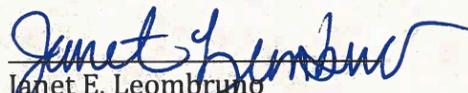
WHEREAS, National Suicide Prevention Week is observed in September to increase awareness and to support family members, educators and other professionals.

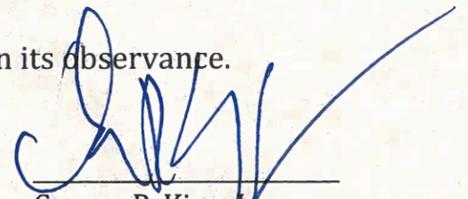
Now Therefore, the Mayor and Council declare, September 10 through 16, 2023 as

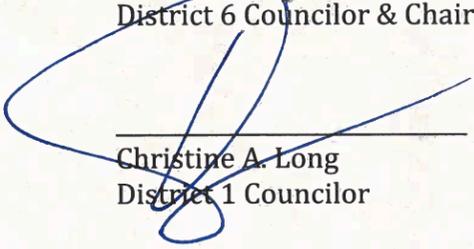
NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

in Framingham, and we urge all residents to take cognizance of this and participate fittingly in its observance.

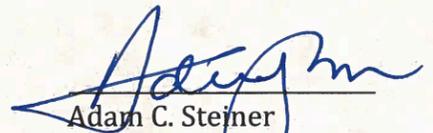

Philip R. Ottaviani, Jr.
District 6 Councilor & Chair


Janet E. Leombruno
Councilor-at-Large & Vice-Chair

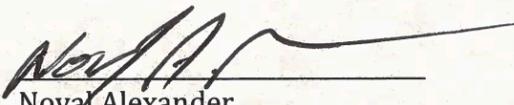

George P. King, Jr.
Councilor-at-Large

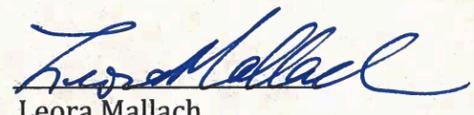

Christine A. Long
District 1 Councilor

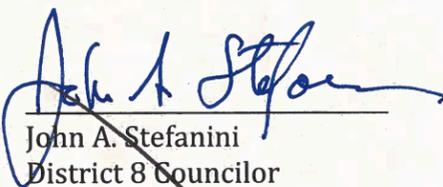

Cesar Stewart-Morales
District 2 Councilor

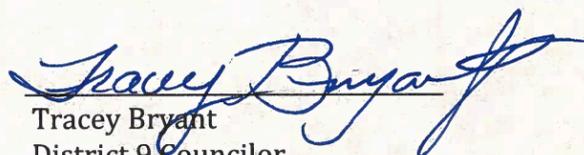

Adam C. Steiner
District 3 Councilor

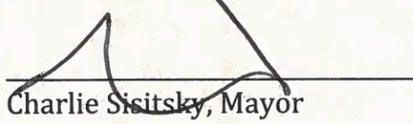

Michael P. Cannon
District 4 Councilor


Noval Alexander
District 5 Councilor

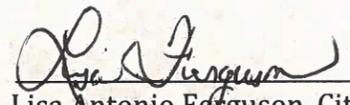

Leora Mallach
District 7 Councilor


John A. Stefanini
District 8 Councilor


Tracey Bryant
District 9 Councilor


Charlie Sisitsky, Mayor

Attested to by:


Lisa Antonio Ferguson, City Clerk
Emily L. Butler, Assistant City Clerk

